

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Office Action dated September 5, 2003 in which the Examiner rejects all the pending claims 1- 26 as being anticipated by Shinjo et al (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048135 A1) under 35USC §102(e). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections as explained in detail below.

As described in the specification, the present invention discloses a novel technique applicable in a multi-stage amplifier circuit, in which a collector (or drain) current in an input stage is used to boost the bias of an output stage, as defined in the claims. It shall be noted that the input stage in the present invention is one of the multiple stages for amplifying an input signal, which is well-known in the art. To avoid any misunderstanding or misinterpretation, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 7, 11, 18 and 21 to clearly and expressly define that the input stage is for amplifying an input signal of the amplifier. Moreover, Applicants have further amended claims 1, 2, 7, 11-16, 18, 20-24 and 26 to more precisely define the present invention, as well as to perfect the language in the claims.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the assertion of the Examiner that the present invention as defined in the claims is anticipated in Shinjo et al. In particular, Shinjo does not teach or disclose that a collector (or drain) current in an input stage, which is one of the multiple stages for amplifying an input signal (as now expressly defined in amended independent claims 1, 7, 11, 18 and 21), is used to boost the bias of an output stage. The detection adjusting circuit 23 (Figure 2 and 3) cited by the Examiner in the Office Action does not sense a signal from an input stage for amplifying the input signal (i.e., transistor 12-1 in Fig. 2), but sense the input signal itself directly from the input 1. Moreover, it can be found nowhere in Shinjo a teaching or implication that a collector (or drain) current of an input stage transistor of the input stage is used to boost the bias of

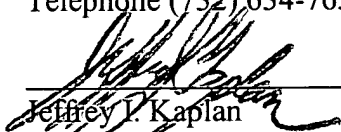
the output stage, as now expressly defined in all independent claims 1, 7, 11, 18 and 21. Therefore, Applicants believe that the present invention as defined in amended claims 1, 7, 11, 18 and 21 is not anticipated by Shinjo under 35USC §102(e), and thus independent claims 1, 7, 11, 18 and 21 are patentable. At least for the same reasons, dependent claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-17, 19-20 and 22-26 are also patentable.

Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the above remarks and amendments. The Examiner is authorized to deduct additional fees believed due from our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

Respectfully submitted,

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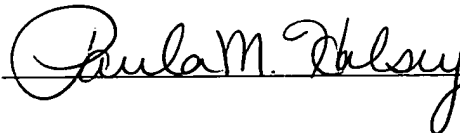
Dated: December 4, 2003


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service as first class mail, in a postage prepaid envelope, addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on December 4, 2003.

Dated December 4, 2003 Signed



Print Name Paula M. Halsey